

Angela Boston

From: Adam Stone [adamstone@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:09 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Don't Cut The VRS Rate

03-123

RECEIVED
MAY 22 2006

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Please increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,
Adam Stone

RECEIVED
MAY 22 2006

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5/22/2006

Angela Boston

From: AndDennis@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 11:05 AM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: VideoPhone Relay Service

03-123

Received
May 18, 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20541

Dear Sir,

I am born DEAF. I am really happy to use VideoPhone Relay Service (VRS). In my life, I depend on VRS to call to hearing people (Like my mother). You know that I can not use regular phone to call hearing people because I am Deaf!

Please stop to cut the funds for VideoPhone Relay Service (VRS).

Dennis R. Anderson
1125 Rosetree Lane
Cincinnati, OH 45230 - 4004
Tel: 866-327-8877 (VRS)
ask for Dennis' 513-232-6733

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5/22/2006

From: andrew@apitchford.com
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 6:32 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: VRS Rates for the Year 2006-2007

1944

How can the technical increases without your support for deaf needs due on ADA that need met our needs. It not mean be donate and it can mean something to made business grow to become as second telephone such as AT&T and Verizon or another that can apply for Sorenson service. I hope thing will be equal access that we, the people, can communicate better. If you do reduce and that will affect a lot of people who is deaf and work for company that use videophone communicate to customer and can lead affect their job achieve fragile because of this. If still going on with rate little up or stay on where the rate and we are fine with it.

Andrew Pitchford
2735 Indian Creek Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73120

104307

5/22/2006

Angela Boston

From: Annette Neel [glory52@charter.net]

Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 11:21 AM

To: KJMWEB

Q3-173
May 19 2006
KJMWEB

good morning i want you to keep vrs i really enjoy to talk
with my family and even dr even stores things i can call with
interppter i really want to keep vrs very much support as well
you proivde spanish with speach spanish see that means
same as provide the deaf what we need the most

thank you

annette

keeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeepp vrs

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5/22/2006

From: George A. Adams III [wahoo4438@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 12:46 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Comments to the Chairman

George A. Adams III (wahoo4438@yahoo.com) writes:

- Click here to read the FCC Commissioner comments
- Click here to read the NAD/TDI filing
- Click here to read Sorenson Communications' press release
(Previous Sorenson Communications' press release 5-2-06)
- Click here to read CSD's press release
- Click here to read what VRS Providers are saying

REC-111
MAY 22 2006
FBI - NEW YORK

Read this article and contact the FCC to make sure your VRS communication needs are met!

The rate for the year 2006-2007 is in the process of being set for VRS services. Fair VRS rates ensure that:

equivalent access is available for all deaf individuals
high quality VRS services are provided
professional interpreters are adequately trained
technology innovation is encouraged

The National Exchange Carriers Association (NECA)'s public position is that VRS providers should not be reimbursed for all of their outreach expenses. However, outreach expenses cover VRS education. This is the only mechanism through which deaf individuals learn about the VRS technology and service offerings. Also, this is the way that additional deaf individuals gain access to VRS. To take away funding for VRS education is inconsistent with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and is insensitive to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

Second, NECA and the FCC are considering decreasing the VRS rate, which is inconsistent with developments that can be expected to drive up the cost of providing VRS. We expect all VRS providers to:

Invest in new interpreters to meet growing VRS demand
Train interpreters to ensure professional VRS services
Provide 911 emergency access for VRS users
Provide interoperability
Meet the speed-of-answer requirement to ensure that all VRS calls are quickly processed
However, by recommending a lower VRS reimbursement rate when costs are increasing NECA and the FCC are encouraging VRS providers to cut back on vital long-term services such as interpreter training and life-saving 911 solutions. An adequate, stable reimbursement rate is essential to the mission of providing communication services to the deaf community!

Raise your voice to ensure the future of VRS! Contact the FCC and NECA directly to let them know of your concern for funding VRS outreach and providing a stable VRS reimbursement rate.

E-mail the FCC at kjmweb@fcc.gov and NECA at jrick@neca.org.

03-123
MAY 22 2006
FBI - NEW YORK

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 65.184.101.155

Angela Boston

From: Nick [nr206n@att.net]

Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 9:52 PM

To: KJMWEB; jricker@neca.org

Subject: concern for funding VRS outreach and providing a stable VRS reimbursement rate.

YOU CANNOT THINK OF CUTTING THE WONDERFUL SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE DEAF PERSONS WHO USE THE VIDEOPHONES AND VRS INTERPRETERS. HOW DO YOU FEEL IF THEY CUT OFF YOUR CELLPHONES AND YOUR EMAILS DUE TO THE INCREASING COST OF OPERATIONS ON THESE CELLPHONES AND EMAILS SERVICES. JUST WHO THE #\$%& DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?? DONT YOU DARE TO CUT THE SERVICES TO THE DEAF PERSONS!!!!

WE THE DEAF PERSONS HAVE A HARD TIME DEALING WITH THOSE IGNORANTS HEARING PERSONS WHO ALWAYS OPRESS US JUST BECAUSE WE CANNOT SPEAK THEIR SPOKEN ENGLISH LANGUAGE. WE THE DEAF PERSONS REALLY NEED THE WONDERFUL VIDEOPHONES TO MAKE CALLS TO OUR LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS USING OUR TRUE LANGUAGE WHICH IS KNOWN AS SIGN LANGUAGE.

FROM A HEAVY USER OF VIDEOPHONE

NICHOLAS ROMANO

5/22/2006

Angela Boston

03-123

From: Phyllis Adams [padams7@sc.rr.com]**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2006 3:43 PM**To:** KJMWEB; jricker@neca.org

I as a Deaf citizen urge the FCC and NECA to not reduce the cost expense to use VRS. Many Deaf or HOH thruout U.S. enjoy using the VRS thru qualified interpreter and talking with Deaf friends with American Sign Language. We Deaf urge you not to reduce the cost of using VRS, interpreter and long distance. We Deaf have suffered more than 200 yrs. of not being able to communicate with other deaf people. This VRS will help us Deaf to keep up what is going on with other Deaf Association and Deaf community. If you reduce the use of VRS, then the Deaf not be able to use VRS anymore. We do appreciate what FCC had done in providing this VRS service and allow the Deaf to talk anywhere with their Deaf friend.

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MADE

5/22/2006

Angela Boston

03-123

From: Guidera, Patricia [Guidera.Patricia@tchden.org]

Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 11:07 AM

To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Patty Guidera

Patty Guidera

God bless America!

EOB/Denial Management Coordinator

Patient Financial Services B095

303-837-2501 TTY

Use Relay 711

fax: 303-861-6597

Guidera.Patricia@tchden.org

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Thank you

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5/23/2006

Angela Boston

03-123

From: Melinda Harrison [melinda.harrison@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 12:10 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: FCC and VRS

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

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The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community. This is the age of technology, so by cutting funding for VRS and other relay services, we would be taking two steps backwards instead of taking one step forward. Deaf people are covered under the American Disabilities Act (ADA), and the invention and technology of VRS has allowed us to experience "functional equivalency" as any other person with normal hearing. Please do not take that away from us.

Again, increase funding for VRS and other relay services - don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Melinda Harrison
San Diego, California

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DATE CODE

Angela Boston

03-123

From: MickTheBlueUCLA1@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:31 AM
To: Jonathan Adelstein
Subject: Don't cut The VRS rate

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

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Sincerely,

Michael Olguin

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10/10/06
10/10/06

5/23/2006

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